

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

MBFR-03 GAC-01 SAJ-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-19

NEA-10 RSR-01 /148 W

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R 231500 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3389

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

SHAPE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUXEMBOURG 389

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH

SUBJ: VISIT OF CINCUSAREUR GENERAL MICHAEL S. DAVISON

TO LUXEMBOURG, MAY 21-22

1. SUMMARY: COMMANDER- IN- CHIEF, US ARMY EUROPE, GENERAL
MICHAEL S. DAVISON VISITED LUXEMBOURG MAY 21-22. IN ADDIT-
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TION TO CALLS ON GOL OFFICIALS, VICE PRESIDENT AND MINISTER OF PUBLIC FORCES (DEFENSE) EUGENE SCHAUS, AND FOREIGN MINISTER GASTON THORN, EMBASSY ALSO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF GENERAL DAVISON' S VISIT TO ARRANGE CALLS ON HIGH OFFICIALS OF PROMINENT EC INSTITUTIONS LOCATED IN LUXEMBOURG, PRESIDENT OF EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE ROBERT LECOURT AND SECRETARY GENERAL OF EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HANS NORD.
END SUMMARY:

2. FOREIGN MINISTER THORN PROVIDED GENERAL DAVISON WITH A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF HIS RECENT VISIT TO CHINA. THORN COMMENTED THAT CHOU- EN LAI AND OTHER CHINESE OFFICIALS APPEARED ALMOST COMPLETELY PREOCCUPIED WITH USSR AND TENDED TO VIEW CHINESE RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE US MAINLY IN THIS OPTIC. CHOU HAD INSISTED TO THORN THAT SOVIET INTENTIONS VIS-A-VIS EUROPE COULD NOT BE TRUSTED AND THAT IT WOULD BE SERIOUS MISTAKE IF US WERE TO REDUCE FORCES IN EUROPE. CHOU HAD ALSO VOICED HIS APPREHENSION OVER POSSIBLE RESURGENCE OF JAPANESE MILITARISM IN FAR EAST WHICH MIGHT EVOLVE AS JAPAN' S REACTION TO INCREASING ASIAN RESISTANCE TO JAPANESE COMMERCIAL DRIVE. CHOU STRESSED CHINA WOULD BE READY TO GO TO WAR OVER SUCH DANGER.

3. ON QUESTION OF EUROPEAN SECURITY GENERAL DAVISON EXPRESSED TO THORN HIS STRONG VIEWS IN FAVOR OF MAINTAINING US AND OTHER NATO FORCE LEVELS IN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF REGULAR SOVIET INCREASES IN FORCES AND MILITARY CAPABILITIES OVER PAST TEN YEARS. THORN RESPONDED HE COULD NOT AGREE MORE, BUT THAT HE WAS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT COMMITMENT AND WILLINGNESS OF LUXEMBOURG YOUTH AND OTHER YOUNG EUROPEAN TO MAINTAIN NATO STRENGTH AND DEFEND EUROPE. THORN, WHO IS PRESIDENT OF LUXEMBOURG' S DEMOCRATIC (LIBERAL) PARTY, RECOUNTED THAT IN RECENT SESSIONS WITH HIS PARTY' S YOUTH ORGANIZATION, HE HAD ALSO ADVANCED INCREASES IN SOVIER/ WARSAW PACT MILITARY STRENGTH IN EASTERN EUROPE AS PRIME REASON FOR MAINTAINING NATO DEFENSE STRENGTH. THORN SAID REACTION OF HIS OWN PARTY YOUTH WAS 1) NOT TO BELIEVE HIM; AND 2) TO LABEL HIM AS A RIGH- WING
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CONSERVATIVE AND BETRAYER OF THE LIBERAL CAUSE. FOREIGN MINISTER AND GENERAL DAVISON AGREED ON THE NEED TO GET TRUE FACTS OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY STRENGTH TO POLITICIANS AND TO EUROPEAN YOUTH. THORN REMARKED THAT IF FOR NO OTHER REASON MBFR HAD BEEN HELPFUL IN THIS RESPECT. THORN ALSO QUESTIONED GENERAL DAVISON CLOSELY ABOUT ALLEGED NOT- TOO- FAVORABLE REPORTS ON

MORALE OF GERMAN MILITARY FORCES. GENERAL DAVISON REASSURED THORN THAT ON BASIS OF HIS VERY RECENT EXPERIENCE WITH GERMAN UNITS DURING JOINT MANEUVERS, HE GAVE THE GERMAN ARMY VERY HIGH MARKS.

4. IN A GENERAL DISCUSSION OF EC POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC TRENDS AND THE US- EUROPEAN RELATIONSHIP, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HANS NORD VOICED TO GENERAL DAVISON THE OFT- HEARD EUROPEAN FEAR THAT AMERICA WOULD NOT COME TO EUROPE' S DEFENSE WITH NUCLEAR WEAPONS. GENERAL DAVISON REPLIED THAT IN TODAY' S SITUATION OF NUCLEAR PARITY, THIS PARTICULAR EUROPEAN FEAR MISSED THE POINT -- THAT SINCE A NUCLEAR WAS WAS VIRTUALLY UNTHINKABLE, IT WAS ALL THE MORE VITAL THAT THE US AND ITS EUROPEAN PARTNERS MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE THEIR CONVENTIONAL FORCES. FURTHERMORE, THE USSR AND WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES HAD INCREASED THEIR FORCES BY TWENTY PERCENT AND HAD ADDED 1200 MORE

NKS OVER THE PAST TEN YEARS. GENERAL DAVISON STRESSED TO NORD THAT THE RESULTANT PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT ON THE USSR, WHICH HAD NOT ALTERED ITS BASIC GOALS TOWARD EUROPE, SHOULD NOT BE UNDERESTIMATED.

5. ROBERT LECOURT, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE, RECEIVED GENERAL DAVISON IN COURTLY OLD- WORLD FASHION IN THE NEWLY INAUGURATED AND THOROUGHLY MODERN COURT BUILDING. PRESIDENT LECOURT INTRODUCED GENERAL DAVISON TO THE ASEMBLED JUDGES AND ADVOCATES GENERAL FROM THE NINE EC MEMBER STATES. THE JUDGES INQUIRED OF GENERAL DAVISON THE ORGANIZATION OF US FORCES IN EUROPE, THEIR INTEGRATION WITH NATO FORCES, AND COMMAND PROCEDURES IN CASE OF ALERT. THEY ALSO DEMONSTRATED A LIVELY INTEREST IN US MILITARY JUDICIAL

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PROCEEDINGS AND WERE VISABLY PLEASED WITH THE CINCUSAREUR' S EXPERT EXPLANATIONS. GALANTO

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TAGS: PFOR, CH
To: BONN
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DUBLIN
EUR
LONDON
PARIS

SECSTATE WASHDC

THE HAGUE

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